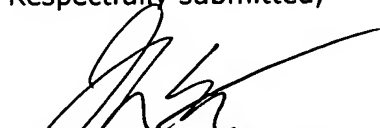


**Remarks:**

Applicant respectfully requests that the amendments to the application be entered prior to examination. The amendments correct minor typographical and grammatical errors in the specification and claims, as well as rewriting certain dependant claims from multiple dependant form. No new matter is added.

Respectfully submitted,

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Jacques L. Etkowicz, Reg. No. 41,738  
Attorney for Applicant

JLE/pb

Attachments: Abstract

Dated: March 7, 2005

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The Commissioner for Patents is hereby  
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## ABSTRACT

An image acquisition unit with a heating device for use with a vehicle is provided. The image acquisition unit comprises: a casing with a protected interior, a window closed by a transparent element and support means to carry an optical system facing the window; image detection means accommodated in the casing, facing the optical system, and associated with connection means with the exterior for the supply and/or bidirectional signal exchange; and heating means to provide thermal energy to the transparent element, or to an adjacent zone thereto, aiming at avoiding lacking transparency problems, due to ambient and climatic factors.